

NEW ORLEANS ROARS WELCOME TO TAFT

The Deep Waterways Convention
Opens with the President
as Headliner.

OTHER BIG ONES ARE PRESENT

Hundred Thousand People Cheer
When the Little Oleander Arrives
—Athenaeum Is Packed.

To the roar of guns from the warships at anchor in midstream, saluted by the deafening shrieks of sirens, the changing of bells and the shrill cheers of one hundred enthusiastic citizens who lined the banks of the Mississippi, President Taft arrived at New Orleans shortly after noon Saturday, bringing to a successful conclusion his long trip down the river from St. Louis. It was a reception well worthy of the big President and that he enjoyed it was very evident.

Standing on the bridge of the trim and speedy Little Oleander, marked among the group of his personal entourage by his immense size, clad in the now familiar silk hat and frock coat, he bowed and smiled happily at the enthusiasm of the throng, turning now and then to whisper to one of his party. As the salute guns of the battleship Mississippi ceased spitting out their noisy greeting, and while Captain Marshall, in command of the squadron, stood on the bridge, the Oleander rounded to and crept up to the wharf at the foot of Canal street.

"Plenty of water here, Mr. President," remarked the pilot, "we have now nearly two hundred feet beneath us." A moment later the reception committee was on board and the President was escorted to the landing. The delay in the arrival of President Taft, which also delayed the starting of the parade, postponed the opening session of the lake-to-the-gulf deep waterways convention. But as soon as President Werlein's gavel fell the prearranged program moved with celerity. Following Mayor Behrman's address of welcome, William K. Kavanaugh, president of the waterways association, delivered his annual address. Immediately following came the appointment of committees, the address of the secretary, F. W. Saunders, and the introduction of resolutions, followed by an adjournment until the afternoon, when Mr. Taft addressed the convention.

At the water way convention Monday night, 5,000 delegates pledged themselves "to support no candidate for public office who will not unqualifiedly endorse" the lake-to-the-gulf deep-channel policy. The resolution to this effect was adopted with a whoop. The resolutions as a whole declare that the moment has arrived for actual construction of the lake-to-the-gulf waterway; that delay cannot be tolerated by the people of the valley; that the needs of the entire nation must be considered simultaneously with the demands of the Mississippi valley, and that unless the present congress can rise to the occasion it is time to get a congress that can.

BANK SHORTAGE IS GROWING.

\$800,000 Found to Have Been Deposited in Mineral Point.

The deposits in the First National Bank of Mineral Point, Wis., should have been given as \$800,000 instead of \$79,000. This was the statement made by R. W. Goodhart, special bank examiner, who discovered the defalcations of Phil Allen Jr., and, on the failure of the directors to come to the rescue, closed the bank. Mr. Goodhart was on his way Monday to appear before the grand jury in La Crosse. It is expected soon after his appearance before the jury an indictment will be found against Allen.

Mr. Goodhart's statement that there were several hundred thousand dollars more of deposits in the bank than was given on the books was based on the discovery of bank receipts given for money deposited with Allen, and for which the bank is liable. They already amount to \$200,000 and are still coming in.

Examiner Goodhart says the defalcation was discovered when he charged Allen with having two notes with forged signatures. The bank man then admitted, says Mr. Goodhart, that he was a defaulter and forger. Before the interview ended Goodhart had discovered \$90,000 in forged paper that Allen admitted he says, was forged.

MANY HURT IN TRAIN COLLISION

Thirty-six Injured in Indiana When Erie Freight Hits Passenger.

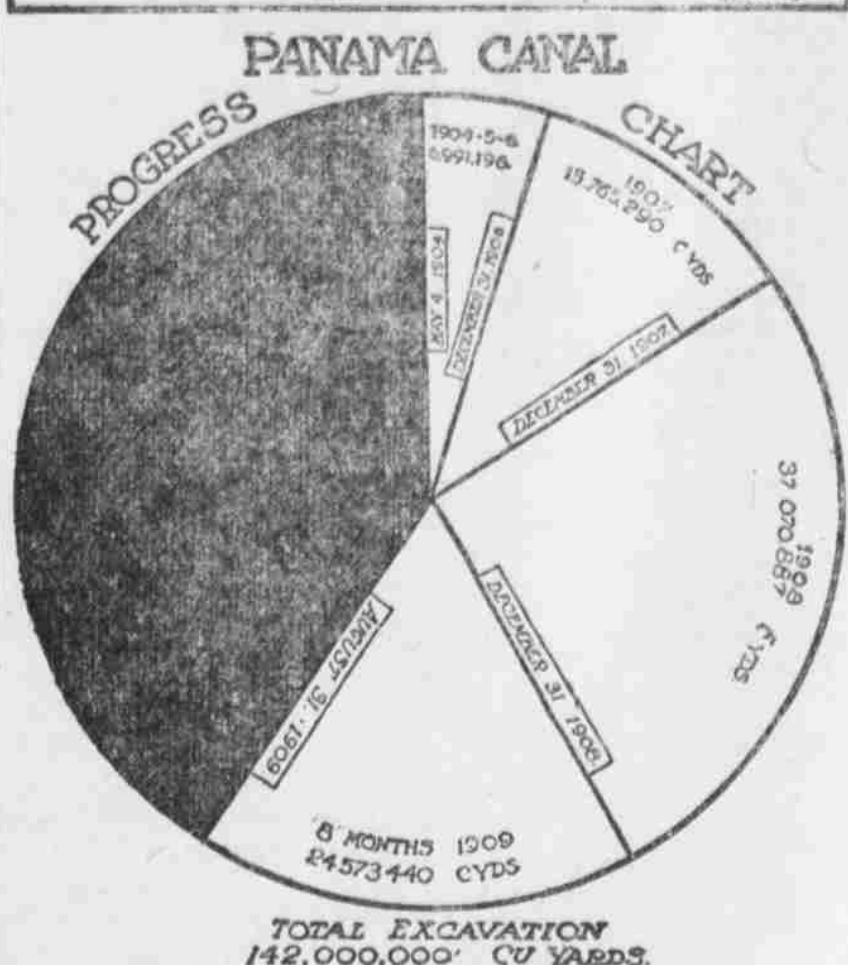
In a collision between a Chicago-bound immigrant train and an east-bound freight at Toccin, Ind., on the Erie Railroad, early Friday morning, thirty-five immigrants—men, women and children—were injured, some of them perhaps fatally. The fireman of the freight locomotive was severely hurt, but no others of the train crew suffered. The air brakes of the freight failed to work and it plowed into the immigrant train, which was stationary, telescoping one coach and ditching several others.

TENEMENT FIRED; TWO DIE.

Eleven Injured in Efforts to Escape from Building in New York.

Two persons were killed and eleven injured in a fire which swept through a three-story tenement at 15th street and Third avenue before daylight Thursday. Fire Chief Croker said he believed an incendiary had set the place on fire. Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Dicks lost their lives. Several persons leaped from windows and fell from a fire escape.

THE CANAL ZONE



If you are interested in the Panama canal and care to know at a glance just how much digging there is to be done before the land is divided and the world united; how much digging has been done and the relation of the entire work to present accomplishment, you may avail yourself of the opportunity right here, writes H. B. Chamberlain in the Chicago Record-Herald.

The progress chart tells the story graphically and has been prepared from the latest data of the Isthmian Canal Commission by Isham Randolph, one of the commission of engineers accompanying Mr. Taft to the isthmus to report on the work. The progress chart indicates the amount of work performed up to and including the last day of August. The grand total of canal excavation performed during that month was 2,755,178 cubic yards, which is 88,082 cubic yards less than the total for July, and 1,125,159 less than the highest record, that of March of this year. It is interesting to note that the record was made in the month following the visit of Mr. Taft and the engineers.

Of the earth removed during August 2,702,835 cubic yards were charged to "work" excavation and 52,343 to "plant." The amount removed from the canal prism was 2,650,980 cubic yards. There were taken out by steam shovels 1,044,871, by dredges 1,046,109 cubic yards.

"Work" excavation means excavation actually made for one of the constituent parts of the canal, such as prism, diversions or locks—that is, it represents material taken from the area to be occupied by the canal and constitutes excavation useful for the completed canal. "Plant" excavation indicates excavation outside of any of the constituent parts of the canal. It includes material necessary to be excavated for construction purposes only, and is chargeable against the particular plant item for which it is performed.

Since last March, when the highest record in canal digging was made,

Fighting the English Sparrow Pest



IN THE rural districts, at least, there is no sentiment in favor of the English sparrow, writes J. Burdick in Pennsylvania Grit. The farmers would exterminate the pest without mercy. As scientists who have studied his habits will tell you, this feathered nuisance is a quarrelsome, vicious, crop destroying thief, and the only voices raised against his extermination are those of uneducated sentimentalists. Various plans have been suggested by the friends of the farmer and horticulturist to mitigate this nuisance, but the really practical solution of the problem must be credited to an Englishman long resident in America, James Hunt, of Moorestown, N. J.

Mr. Hunt has known the sparrow from the time he got intimately acquainted with him in England, and he has used his early acquired knowledge to bring to the war that he has waged in Moorestown a variety of deadly machines and devices that are well known in Europe, but have not been tried here. Also he has adopted ideas that have found favor in England, where the sparrow is now regarded as of as great a nuisance as he is here. One of these ideas is the organization of sparrow clubs, and another is the enlisting of all the boys in the neighborhood in the ranks of the sparrow killers.

It may be imagined with what zeal boys will enter into such a work as this. The sport of bird nesting is a craze with the average boy, but he needs in fear of the wrath of parent and Sunday school teacher, who regard the despoiling of the home of the feathered innocent with horror. But here comes a philanthropist who not only begs the boys to rob the sparrow of his habitation and of his offspring, but actually offers a reward for the production of the evidence of such despoiling. The plan in Moorestown has been to offer the following gifts to the sparrow hunters:

For the heads of mature birds, per dozen 10 cents
For the bodies of nestlings, per dozen 8 cents
For eggs, per dozen 6 cents

To encourage adults to join in the war, prizes were offered to those destroying the most birds, with an annual supper, at which prizes were distributed and speeches made. Before such an onslaught as followed the inauguration of this campaign the sparrow speedily admitted defeat, and Moorestown is now almost free of the pest.

Of the many devices that have been used in the war, the most interesting is one that Mr. Hunt calls the "clap net." With this he says he has caught or helped to catch thousands of sparrows. The birds are caught in the clap net in their efforts to escape from the trapper. A dark, still night is selected for the work and the net, which is simply a mesh of strong twine stretched on parallel poles, is taken to where the birds are roosting in the ivy covered walls of a church or in bushes. One of the poles is rubbed against the place where the birds are sleeping, the other pole being kept a foot or so away. The frightened birds flock from the roost, the outside pole is clapped around so as to enclose them in the net as they fly from the roost, and the rest is a mere matter of putting them out of their misery quickly. A variation of the process is to hold the entire net away from the roosting place and hold a strong light behind it. An assistant then struts the birds up with a pole

there has been a gradual decrease in the monthly total. This is explained by the canal authorities on the ground that the period of easy digging is past and that dredges and steam shovels are encountering less earth and more rock every day. Then, too, several comparatively small pieces of work have been completed and the general field of work has been narrowed. In the Culebra cut, however, the work is continued on the same scale as heretofore and there is no considerable diminution in the output, the monthly reports showing about the same totals. Compared with a year ago, the excavation reports show better work than even the number of cubic yards indicate. In August, 1908, there were fifty-two and one-half shovels at work and in August, 1909, but forty-eight. The chief difference, however, is the falling off in car service, due to the long haul now made by spoil trains at Gatun, fourteen and one-half miles beyond Tabernilla, whereas in 1908 the longest haul was to Tabernilla.

But there is much more in the canal zone than mere digging. You know about it, of course, because there is scarcely a magazine or newspaper that has not told all about it. But here are some items that may bear repeating:

The canal zone is a safe, healthful place to visit. The United States maintains hotels which are modern, comfortable and charge rates that are reasonable. As a matter of fact, Uncle Sam made his hotel charges so low that the government of Panama protested and asked him to increase his prices, as all of the patronage was leaving the queer republic for the canal zone.

People who work in the canal zone are not out of the world. It is but 512 miles from Panama to Chicago. It is the same distance to New Orleans. The government contributes much toward the health, comfort and social enjoyment of employees. To illustrate, it has expended \$800,000 in bronze wire netting so that the sixty-two varieties of mosquito may not annoy the folks who wish to sit out on the front porches. It pays high wages, which are about 40 per cent higher than those paid for the same class of work in the States. It allows a six-weeks' holiday every year on pay, and furnishes rent, light and fuel without cost. It provides a model hospital and sustains a staff of well-trained surgeons and nurses. It maintains a commissary department and controls prices to such an extent that they compare favorably with those in Chicago. Fresh eggs are quoted at 22 cents a dozen, while butter costs 35 cents a pound. Meats are supplied at Chicago market prices, and the prices of other necessities are never exorbitant.

On the pay roll of the Canal Commission are 40,000 people, of whom 6,000 are Americans. There is a weekly paper, the Canal Record, published by the commission at Ancon, and as 250,000 visitors invade the zone every year, the people living there are in touch with the country at large all the time. Fraternal and secret societies, church organizations, social clubs, labor unions and athletic associations there are, and the interest in things besides work is as intense as here.

There are sixteen United States post offices in the canal zone. Last August they sold 15,468 money orders, aggregating \$409,481.22. Of this amount \$309,540.07 was payable in the United States, \$99,913.15 in the canal zone and \$28 in Martinique. The fees collected amounted to \$1,764.15, and the postal sales were \$5,944, of which \$3,566.40 accrued to the canal zone postal system and \$2,377.60 to the Republic of Panama. The revenue from newspaper postage was \$14.51.

The police force consists of 251 men, with a pay roll of \$19,292.81. In August—the last report—they arrested 535 persons, representing fifty-one nationalities. Of these thirty-seven were women. During the month fifty-two criminal cases were tried in the circuit courts. Seventeen were dismissed, four continued, one acquitted and twenty-eight convicted. Of those convicted six were sentenced to the penitentiary and fined, eight received penitentiary sentences only, two were sentenced to jail and fined and twelve were fined only. In one case sentence was suspended. Forty-five civil cases were tried and the sum of \$2,549.41 was collected in executions.

In August there were 123 convicts in the canal zone and 111 district prisoners. The prison pay rolls amounted to \$1,527.83, the cost of prisoners' subsistence was \$892.75, a total of \$2,420.58. The value of the work performed by prisoners on zone roads amounted to \$2,024.22. There were fourteen violent deaths, requiring the attention of the coroner. Of these six were by accidental drowning, five by railroad accidents, one by accidental shooting and two by accidental wounds. Nine persons were deported. Taken all in all, the police record is not serious for a population of 40,000.

There are churches, schools, clubs and literary societies in the canal zone. There is a federation of women's clubs with many members. There is a band that gives concerts in some of the towns along the railway every day. The activities along the isthmus are not so very different from those in this section of the country.

BEAR FOUGHT TWO MEN.



After a chase of more than a mile, George and Cleveland McKane, father and son, who conduct a farm near Shohola, Pike County, Pa., had a desperate battle with a big brown bear and narrowly escaped with their lives.

George McKane, the father, was passing through the apple orchard, when he came upon the bear feasting on the fruit. It was of such formidable size that he decided to take no chances, but went to the farmhouse and obtained a repeating rifle. With his son he went to the attack. Catching Bruin unaware, he put a bullet in its neck, but the wound was not serious and the animal ran away.

The McKanes gave chase and at last caught up with the bear near a swamp, about a mile away. There they had practically cornered the beast, when it suddenly turned and charged upon George McKane. One sweep of his huge paw sent his weapon flying and tore away one coat sleeve and part of the flesh of the arm.

With a cry of pain the farmer reeled, the bear still making for him. The younger McKane ran to save his father, caught up the rifle, and, with hardly time to take good aim, fired, the bullet entering the bear's brain, killing it instantly. The carcass weighed 400 pounds, and measured six feet in length.

willows, and the rods form the outside of this circular trap, the fine ends being turned over to form a kind of funnel towards the bottom of the trap. The funnel slopes gradually, so that feed can be placed upon it and the birds easily run up and down upon it. The end of the funnel goes near enough to the bottom of the trap to permit the birds getting under and into the bottom of the trap. Then they keep going round and round inside of the trap, seeking a way out. I have caught large numbers of young sparrows with this simple trap. The brick trap is a simple device, but it catches only one bird at a time. The wholesale catching and killing is the right way to wage a war such as we have carried on so successfully here."

The output of Chilean nitrate of soda is expected to be largely increased because of the recent disruption of the combine of producers.

One part formaldehyde to forty of water makes an excellent cleansing medium for cellars or other places from which sunlight is excluded.

The latest types of electric fans turn slowly from side to side, sending a cooling breeze into every corner of the room. Without a doubt this is a great improvement over the old kind.

Don't believe all the evils you hear. Don't fear at anybody's religious belief. Don't be rude to your inferiors in social position. Don't repeat gossip, even if it does interest a crowd. Don't underrate anything because you don't possess it. Don't contradict people, even if you're sure you are right.

BISMARCK OF JAPAN, WHO WAS SHOT BY A KOREAN.



PRINCE HIROBUMI ITO.

The most powerful figure in the public life of Japan and one of the world's greatest statesmen was Prince Hirobumi Ito, who was shot to death by a Korean at Harbin, Manchuria. He was one of the makers of the new Japan, as surely as Bismarck was one of the builders of modern Germany, and for a period of fifty years had given his best services to his country. Honored by his Emperor and trusted and respected by the people, he was a dominating figure in the Oriental empire.

Prince Ito, who was a member of the Privy Council of Japan, had gone to Harbin to hold an important conference with the Russian Minister of Finance, M. Kokovoff. As he stepped from the platform of the train and turned toward the Russian minister standing on the station landing a half dozen revolver shots rang out and at the second report Prince Ito staggered and fell. He died within twenty minutes. Three other officials were shot and wounded during the fusillade of bullets. The assassin made no attempt to escape, but stood awaiting arrest, together with two other Koreans.

Prince Ito was five times Premier of Japan. The achievement with which his name had been chiefly associated in the minds of Occidentals was the framing of the imperial constitution, by virtue of which Japan took her place for the first time in the ranking modern civilized states. As the wise and trusted adviser through which the state was placed on constitutional basis, he must be regarded as one of the positive factors which have helped Japan to assume her present standing among nations. He was 68 years old.

It was in 1863 that he made his celebrated pilgrimage to England, at a time when it was against the laws of his country to go abroad and the penalty for infringement was death. Nevertheless, inspired by patriotic feeling and a desire to learn the secret of Occidental supremacy, he undertook the trip which proved so beneficial to his country later on. Prince Ito visited the United States in 1870 as a commissioner to investigate the financial and banking systems. On his return to Japan he was appointed Vice Minister of Public Works. In 1880 he negotiated with Li Hung Chang on the Korean question and concluded the treaty which formed the basis of Japan's justification for her war with China in 1894. Later he negotiated a treaty of peace with China and at the close of the war was made a Marquis.

After the Russo-Japanese war he was Resident General in Korea, in which capacity he became the object of hatred of the Koreans. The assassination of Prince Ito has cast a gloom over Japan, and the news of the tragedy was received at Washington and in every European capital with regret.

BRIDGE DROPS TEAM INTO RIVER

Driving a team across the bascule bridge at Ashland avenue in Chicago, John Furlong was caught in the center of the structure when it was raised and escaped death in the river by jumping from the wagon and clinging to the railing of the rising bridge until he was rescued. The bridge is of the "jack knife" style, so-called because in opening the structure parts in the center and each half lifts into the air like the blades of a knife. The horses dropped through the opening thus made and were drowned before men who went to their rescue could save them. Furlong and his team were in the exact center of the bridge when it was lifted. As the draw parted the wagon was on one side and the horses on the other. The animals fell through, breaking the traces, while the vehicle rolled back down the incline, carrying Furlong with it. The teamster leaped, caught a girder, and held on until the bridge was lowered.



SPLINTERS.

Hungry poets are not satisfied with empty honors.

The only way to crush an egotist is to pay no attention to him.

When one good turn begets another we shall have perpetual motion.

The man who jumps at conclusions seldom lands where he expects to.

It's easy to reason with a man if you have staked him to a good dinner.

A process of butter making by electrolytic action on cream has been patented by two Ohioans. The positive electrode gathers the butter globules.

The first class of Filipino physicians educated under American rule recently was graduated from the Philippine Medical School at Manila.

Platinum, used extensively in electrical work, is only mined in California and Oregon in this country, the former supplying 85 per cent of the American product.